



View to the north from the runway.

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

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The Airport Master Plan Study Update for Bagdad Airport has been undertaken by Yavapai County and the Town of Bagdad along with financing, in part, by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Aeronautics Division, for the purpose of determining the existing and future role of the airport and to provide the airport sponsor (Yavapai County) with direction in the development of an important community asset.

The development of the Master Plan is in response to the changing demand for aviation facilities at Bagdad Airport. The existing 1982 Master Plan provided direction for the development of the airport, which has occurred over the last 17 years with the exception of construction of a terminal building. However, the disrepair of most airport facilities and current shortages of other facilities and services point to the need to re-evaluate earlier recommendations and look forward through the next 20 years. In addition, other questions have evolved in recent years concerning the future role of Bagdad Airport.

This Master Plan Update has been developed to provide a realistic development program that relates to projected future aviation demand for Bagdad Airport, as well as being responsive to the needs and wishes of the community it serves.

### 1.2 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

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The fundamental purpose of this Master Plan is to provide recommendations that direct the extent, nature, and timing of a priority program for airport development. The primary objective of this master planning effort is to provide a long-term program, which will maintain a safe, efficient, economical and environmentally acceptable airport facility for the community and preserve the operational integrity of Bagdad Airport. Realizing the stated objectives will require consideration of the following:

- ❖ The Town's expectations and desires concerning accommodation of aviation activity.
- ❖ FAA funding criteria and development standards.
- ❖ Issues on current airport policies and maintenance.

### 1.3 THE MASTER PLAN PROCESS

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Because the airport belongs to the public and is intended to serve the entire community, a comprehensive analysis of the airport and the area was conducted. Evaluation of both existing and forecast conditions served as the basis for recommendations of airport development, and financial and land use compatibility plans. As part of the objectives of this study, the Master Plan includes the following elements.

- ❖ Airport Inventory - assembles and organizes data relevant to Bagdad Airport and its surrounding area.
- ❖ Aviation Demand Forecasts - develops estimates of future air traffic activity, by quantity and type.
- ❖ Facility Requirements - determines and prepares a list of facility requirements needed to meet projected demand for the airport for existing, short, intermediate, and long-term time frames.
- ❖ Development Alternatives - develops and evaluates various airport development alternatives.
- ❖ Environmental Evaluation - evaluates potential impacts associated with proposed development.
- ❖ Airport Layout Plans - refines the preferred airport development alternative into a plan for the ultimate development of the airport.
- ❖ Financial Analysis - prepares and analyzes a capital improvement program to carry out the recommended development plan. This section also establishes development priority schedules, identifies means of financing future development and estimates development costs.

It is the intent of this Master Plan Update to bring all of these elements together and evaluate their immediate impacts and long-term implications on Bagdad Airport. The proper analysis of these factors will result in a document that will serve as a valuable tool throughout the 20-year planning period.

### 1.4 COMMITTEE AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

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One of the most important elements of the planning process, is the direct involvement of all parties who may be affected by any recommendations that result from the study effort. This involvement was channeled through the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) and public information meetings to review the work of the study team during the course of the study.

Airport issues are identified during the initiation of the master planning effort to ensure that the PAC and public have an early opportunity to provide input into the master planning process. This effort also provides the necessary information to the members of the PAC and consultant team to guide the data collection process. This section summarizes the airport issues identified by the PAC to be addressed in the Airport Master Plan Update.

- ❖ **Airport Maintenance.** Airport maintenance is an ongoing issue for the airport. The County understands that addressing this issue is required to protect their existing airport investment and remain eligible for federal and state funding.
- ❖ **Security.** Security has become an important issue for the airport due to several incidents of vandalism and wildlife incursions. Upgrades to the current airport boundary fencing and gate entries require evaluation.
- ❖ **Lighting.** Runway lighting is inoperative. An airfield lighting evaluation is required for safe nighttime operations.

During PAC and Public meetings, comments and suggestions were encouraged to ensure that the Master Plan represented the community's vision for the airport. It was the clear intent of this study that realistic and effective airport development alternatives be prepared for Bagdad Airport, resulting in an Airport Master Plan which can be used well into the future. Creating a healthy airport environment is a challenge that the airport, its users, the community, and all citizens must undertake jointly. The planning process represents an important step in the direction of accepting that challenge.➔

### Several questions face Bagdad Airport in the next twenty years.

**Q: What impact will aviation growth in Arizona have on Bagdad Airport?**

**A:** All indications are that Bagdad Airport will be affected to some degree by the growing demand for aviation facilities being experienced by cities and metropolitan areas throughout Arizona.

**Q: Who is responsible for the airport's maintenance?**

**A:** Yavapai County is the airport sponsor and, therefore, responsible for airport maintenance. However, the acting airport manager currently monitors the maintenance needs for the airport and notifies the County when assistance is required.

**Q: Will future development be compatible with long-range plans of Yavapai County?**

**A:** Proposed development presented in subsequent chapters is not in conflict with existing Yavapai County development plans.